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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,217	12/15/2003	Carl Young	G08.150/U	7693
28062 7590 07/26/2007 BUCKLEY, MASCHOFF & TALWALKAR LLC 50 LOCUST AVENUE NEW CANAAN, CT 06840			EXAMINER PLUCINSKI, JAMISUE A	
			ART UNIT 3629	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/26/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/737,217	YOUNG ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jamisue A. Plucinski	3629	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-10,15 and 16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-10,15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101*

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

3. An invention, which is eligible for patenting under 35 U.S.C. § 101, is in the “useful arts” when it is a machine, manufacture, process or composition of matter, which produces a concrete, tangible, and useful result. The fundamental test for patent eligibility is thus to determine whether the claimed invention produces a “useful, concrete and tangible result.” The test for practical application as applied by the examiner involves the determination of the following factors:

- (a) “Useful” - The Supreme Court in *Diamond v. Diehr* requires that the examiner look at the claimed invention as a whole and compare any asserted utility with the claimed invention to determine whether the asserted utility is accomplished.

Applying utility case law the examiner will note that:

- i. the utility need not be expressly recited in the claims, rather it may be inferred.
- ii. If the utility is not asserted in the written description, then it must be well established.

(b) “Tangible” - Applying *In re Warmerdam*, 33 F.3d 1354, 31 USPQ2d 1754 (Fed.

Cir. 1994), the examiner will determine whether there is simply a mathematical construct claimed, such as a disembodied data structure and method of making it. If so, the claim involves no more than a manipulation of an abstract idea and therefore, is nonstatutory under 35 U.S.C. § 101. In *Warmerdam* the abstract idea of a data structure became capable of producing a useful result when it was fixed in a tangible medium, which enabled its functionality to be realized.

(c) “Concrete” - Another consideration is whether the invention produces a

“concrete” result. Usually, this question arises when a result cannot be assured.

An appropriate rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be accompanied by a lack of enablement rejection, because the invention cannot operate as intended without undue experimentation.

4. In Claims 6 and 7, the ambiguities cited would make it impossible for the process to be repeatable or “concrete.” In other words, different users would come up with different responses.

5. As per Claims 6 and 7, it appears that the method/system/program code is outputting a subjective quantifier which is descriptive of the amount of harm that “could be” caused, and is descriptive of a time frame during which harm, caused by the security risk “could be” experienced. The specification lacks any guidance on how the quantifiers are determined or calculated, therefore would be “subjective” to who ever sets the quantifiers. If one person thought the harm would be large, therefore giving the quantifier a high number, where one person might give it a lower number. Furthermore, there is no metes or bounds on what is

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considered a high number or a lower number to determine if the harm is great or small.

Therefore causing the “subjective quantifier” to be non-concrete and non-tangible and the method/system/program code is not repeatable, based on subjective information and would appear to be an attempt to patent an abstract idea not a “concrete” process.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

6. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claims recites the use of “subjective quantifiers” that are descriptive of the amount of harm, and a time frame during which harm could be experienced, however lacks a description of how these quantifiers are set or calculated. Therefore subjective to the user, and therefore one of ordinary skill in the art would not be able to practice the invention without undue experimentation.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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9. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beverina et al. (US 2001/0027388) in view of Zimmers et al. (US 2005/0013417).

10. With respect to Claims 1, 15, 16: Beverina discloses the use of a computer system with a computer implemented method for managing security risks (see abstract) which uses a computer executable code (paragraph 0011) to perform the following steps:

- a. Setting a hierarchical relationship between two or more elements where the first element is a facility and the second element is a resource located within the facility (See Figures 7, 8 and 15, with corresponding detailed description, and paragraphs 0015, 0078, 0079, 0110 and 0129),
- b. Receiving an indication of a security risk of one or more of the elements (See Figures 8 and 15, paragraph 0011),
- c. Receiving selection of a first element and a second element (See Figure 15, Beverina teaches the Risk assessment to Ft. Belvoir, and to a building at Ft. Belvoir, which has a hierarchical relationship); and
- d. Relating the received indication of a security risk to the first and selected elements (Paragraphs 0078, 0081 and 0117)
- e. Transmitting a description of the security risk as it relates to the element selected and wherein the relationship between the received indication of the security risk and the first selected element is based on hierarchical relationship and indication of security risk (See Figures 15 and 16, paragraphs 0012 and 0081);

- f. Allowing a user to traverse between the hierarchical elements (Figure 23, discloses user allowing to determine Building Damage, second element, as well as geographic effects, which is considered to be more a facility or first element.)
11. Beverina however, discloses the security risks are situational risks, fails to disclose the information related to the security risk is in real-time and is from a government agency or a news feed. Zimmers discloses the use of a real time weather feed, which the examiner considers to be a type of news feed, that is fed into a system and element information related to the risk are gathered and outputted based on facilities (See abstract, and Figure 2). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beverina, to include the informational information/news feed of Zimmers, in order to provide emergency information to persons needing to be notified of such information, and individuals can be notified of emergency that directly threatens or of interest to him or her. (See Zimmers, pages 1 and 2)
12. With respect to Claim 2: See Beverina Figure 16 and paragraph 0106.
13. With respect to Claim 4: See Beverina Figures 15, 16, 23 and 24.
14. With respect to Claim 5: the limitation of the security risk comprising misappropriation of information is deemed to be nonfunctional descriptive material and is not functionally involved in the steps recited. The steps of transmitting security risks would be performed the same regardless of what type of threat the security risk is based on. Thus this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, see *In re Gulack*, 703 F .2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed.Cir.1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F .3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

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15. With respect to Claim 6: See Beverina Figure 23, paragraphs 0013 and 0096.
16. With respect to Claim 7: See Beverina paragraphs 0174, 0175 and 0209-0222.
17. With respect to Claim 8: See Beverina Figures 21 and 40, paragraph 0085.
18. With respect to Claim 9: See Beverina Figures 15 and 19.
19. With respect to Claim 10: See Beverina Paragraph 0198.

### *Response to Arguments*

20. The 101 rejection has been dropped based on the amendment as filed 5/29/07.
21. Applicant's arguments filed 5/29/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
22. With respect to Applicant's arguments that the recitation of a "subjective quantifier" does not render the concrete, repeatable and tangible process subjective: However, in the claims the "subjective quantifier" is that which is outputted, and therefore the result, which is transmitted. The specification lacks any description of how these quantifiers are calculated or even determined, and have not defined any metes and bounds to the terms. Therefore the result would be subjective, as claimed, and therefore the claim is considered to be non-repeatable. The rejection stands as stated above.
23. With respect to Applicant's argument with the 103 rejection: The applicant is basing their arguments on Beverina not disclosing "setting" a hierarchical relationship between two or more element. As stated previously, the examiner considers Beverina to "set" a relationship, due to the fact that in Beverina, the user defines a building, and then defines a floor within a building. Therefore that is considered to be "setting" a relationship. It is a specific relationship, because it



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is a floor within a building. A user defines the area, and puts in features, this is an active step of setting. The applicant made a statement that admitted by the Office Action that Beverina does not disclose setting a relationship between two elements or even suggest setting a hierarchical relationship between the two. The meaning of this, was that even though Beverina does not specifically use those terms, does not specifically use the term "setting a relationship" or even "setting a relationship", the step is still being performed. The examiner was talking about the terms not being used, NOT that Beverina does not disclose the step. Beverina actively sets relationships between floors and buildings, therefore the examiner considers Beverina to disclose the claimed invention. Furthermore, Beverina even states the use of child nodes and parent nodes, in paragraph 0129, which the examiner considers to be hierarchical relationship.

24. Applicant has argued all other rejections based on the fact that Beverina does not disclose the "setting" step. The examiner considers Beverina to disclose this, therefore arguments are not considered to be persuasive and rejections stand as stated above.

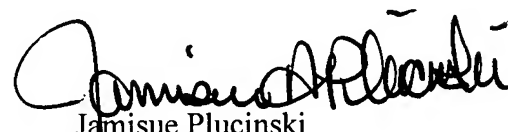
### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamisue A. Plucinski whose telephone number is (571) 272-6811. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (5:30 - 4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Jamisue Plucinski  
Primary Examiner  
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